

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS : K. NISHIOKA, et al.  
SERIAL NO. : (Con. of 08/913,840)  
FILED : 24 January 2002  
FOR : PROCESSOR  
GROUP ART : 2783 (Anticipated)  
EXAMINER : J. FOLLANSBEE (Anticipated)

*Pre-Amendment A*  
*#2*  
*T.D.*  
*03/12/03*

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER  
FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

SIR:

Prior to examination of this continuation/continuation-in-part application, please enter the following amendments.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1:

Before the first line, please insert: -- This is a continuation of application number 08/913,840 filed 12 September 1997 and is a continuation-in-part of application number 08/681,180 filed 22 July 1996, now patent number 5,870,618. --

Page 29:

Line 18, replace "of" with -- as --.

Page 33:

Lines 18, replace "test" with -- dest. --.